

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2615
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02974

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNSC
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS AT
MINISTERIAL LEVEL

1. AT 20 JULY AMBASSADORIAL MEETING OF THE NAMIBIA
CONTACT GROUP, SC PRESIDENT BARTON (CANADA) CONFIRMED
THAT HIS CONSULTATIONS WITH MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS HAVE PRODUCED STRONG
SOVIET AND CHINESE OPPOSITION TO THE CONCEPT OF
INFORMAL COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS OF THE WHOLE AMONG
FOREIGN MINISTERS. A NUMBER OF HIS CONSULTATIONS HAD
HAD TO BE CONDUCTED AT THE DEPUTY LEVEL BECAUSE OF
THE ABSENCE FROM NEW YORK OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTA-
TIVES, A FACTOR WHICH HE THOUGHT MIGHT IN PART EXPLAIN
A CERTAIN LACK OF ENTERPRISE AND ENTHUSIASM AMONG
SOME OF THE OTHER DELEGATIONS, CITING AFRICAN MEMBERS.

2. BARTON SAID HE HAS CERTAIN DOUBTS AS TO THE DESIRA-
BILITY OF BRINGING THIS MATTER UP DURING HIS PRESIDENCY
WHEN WE WILL HAVE A FULL PLATTER OF ISSUES CONCERNING
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NAMIBIA. HE WOULD BE WILLING TO RAISE IT AT THE END
OF THE NAMIBIA CONSULTATIONS PROVISIONALLY SCHEDULED
FOR MONDAY AFTERNOON, 24 JULY, BUT ONLY IF THE
NAMIBIA DISCUSSION HAS GONE WELL. THE FRENCH AND FRG
THOUGHT IT WISE TO BE EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS IN MOVING
FORWARD ON THE MINISTERIAL CONSULTATIONS ISSUE DURING
THE PENDENCY OF THE NAMIBIA AND WALVIS BAY RESOLUTIONS.

THE UK AND US POINTED OUT THAT IF NOTHING IS DONE
DURING THE LAST WEEK OF THE CANADIAN PRESIDENCY, WE
WOULD NEXT BE ABLE TO REVERT TO THE ISSUE NOT EARLIER
THAN OCTOBER, WHEN FRANCE WILL BE PRESIDENT, AN UN-
DESIRABLE DELAY. UK AMB. RICHARD ALSO OBSERVED THAT
WE SHOULD NOT LET SOVIET AND CHINESE NEGATIVISM KILL
THE IDEA OF MINISTERIAL CONSULTATIONS; IF THE GREAT
MAJORITY OF COUNTRIES WERE READY TO SEND MINISTERS, HE
DOUBTED THAT GROMYKO WOULD STAND OUT, AND IF THE CHINESE
DID NOT PARTICIPATE, THAT WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING.
BARTON SEEMED TO AGREE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF MOVING
FORWARD, SUBJECT TO THE CAVEAT THAT WE NOT FURTHER
BURDEN AN ALREADY DIFFICULT SC SCENARIO ON NAMIBIA.
MCHENRY

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